

## San Luis Obispo Regional Hazardous Materials Cooperative Agreement - Alternatives Considered

The Board of Directors considered a number of alternatives in order to address the financial and organizational challenges faced by the Team, including:

Alternative 1 – a) increase the current \$1,000 annual assessment per Member Agency to County: \$10,000, Cities: \$5,000, Districts and other jurisdictions: \$2,000, each with a built in inflator. This will increase the budgeted funding from \$16,000 to \$69,000; b) amend the Agreement; and, c) create an effective operational and administrative leadership structure for the team.

Alternative 2 – a) dissolve the Cooperative Agreement and create a Joint Powers Authority; b) utilize a new tax base of the established Authority to provide sustainable and reliable funding; and, c) create an effective operational and administrative leadership structure for the team.

Alternative 3 – a) dissolve the Cooperative Agreement and assign all responsibility for hazardous materials response to the County, with voluntary participation by local fire departments; b) create an effective operational and administrative leadership structure for the team, under the sole authority of County Fire; and, c) require the County to fund under one agency.

Alternative 4 – a) dissolve the Cooperative Agreement, and return all hazardous materials responsibilities to the local fire agencies and to County Environmental Health; b) all funding would be the responsibility of each individual agency, and c) all operational and administrative structures would be the responsibility of each individual agency, with the Incident Command System (ICS) governing unified operations.

Alternative 5 – a) Continue with the current Cooperative Agreement; b) move legislation through to change the State Health and Safety Code to allow the use of CUPA fees to provide sustainable and reliable funding; and, c) create an effective operational and administrative leadership structure for the team. Note: This alternative is currently not legal under the state Health and Safety Code.

### Analysis of Possible Solutions

Financial Impacts				
Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5
Requires increasing membership assessments	Provides sustainable and reliable funding	Provides sustainable and reliable funding	Does not provide any Team funding	Provides sustainable and reliable funding
	Reduces impact on Team member agency budgets. Would require a tax measure for the Authority	Reduces impact on Team member agency budgets	Increases impact on Team member agency budgets	Reduces impact on Team member agency budgets
Additional Fees: County + \$9,000, Cities + \$4,000, Districts & other jurisdictions + \$1,000, Plus CPI index	Additional Fees: \$61,000, Election, Joint Powers Authority, and Administrative fee	Additional Fees: Agencies no longer pay \$1,000 annual fee and will not receive haz mat support; County + \$61,000	Additional Fees: Agencies no longer pay \$1,000 annual fee; All agencies pay \$61,000 (x 16 = \$976,000)	
Preferred	Preferred	Preferred		

<b>Operational Impacts</b>				
<b>Alternative 1</b>	<b>Alternative 2</b>	<b>Alternative 3</b>	<b>Alternative 4</b>	<b>Alternative 5</b>
Status Quo	Creates an effective operational and administrative structure	Creates an effective operational and administrative structure	Operations and administration would revert to individual departments	Creates an effective operational and administrative structure
Status Quo	Continues cooperative haz mat response activities	Continues cooperative haz mat response activities	Haz mat response reverts to individual departments	Continues cooperative haz mat response activities
Preferred	Preferred	Preferred		

<b>Legal Impacts</b>				
<b>Alternative 1</b>	<b>Alternative 2</b>	<b>Alternative 3</b>	<b>Alternative 4</b>	<b>Alternative 5</b>
Requires amending the current Agreement by each member agency	Would require the creation of a new legal entity	May require the divestment of the Agreement	None anticipated	Not legally allowed by Health and Safety Code
Preferred		Preferred	Preferred	

<b>Labor Impacts</b>				
<b>Alternative 1</b>	<b>Alternative 2</b>	<b>Alternative 3</b>	<b>Alternative 4</b>	<b>Alternative 5</b>
None anticipated	None anticipated	None anticipated	None anticipated	None anticipated
Preferred	Preferred	Preferred	Preferred	Preferred

<b>Sociopolitical Impacts</b>				
<b>Alternative 1</b>	<b>Alternative 2</b>	<b>Alternative 3</b>	<b>Alternative 4</b>	<b>Alternative 5</b>
Maintains current Joint Powers Authority	New taxes would likely encounter political opposition	Local governing bodies might object to shifting of responsibilities	Local governing bodies might object to shifting of responsibilities	New fees would likely encounter political opposition
Preferred				

<b>Policy Impacts</b>				
<b>Alternative 1</b>	<b>Alternative 2</b>	<b>Alternative 3</b>	<b>Alternative 4</b>	<b>Alternative 5</b>
Requires the development of an amended Agreement	Would not violate and existing policies	Would not violate and existing policies	Would not violate and existing policies	Would not violate any existing policies
	Would require significant creation of new policies	Would require significant creation of new policies	Would not require any new policies	Would require significant creation of new policies
Preferred				

<b>Health and Safety Impacts</b>				
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Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5
	improvements should improve public safety	improvements should improve public safety	Unknown i on public safety	improvements should improve public safety
Status Quo	Operational improvements should improve responder health and safety	Operational improvements should improve responder health and safety	Unknown impact on responder health and safety	Operational improvements should improve responder health and safety
Preferred	Preferred	Preferred		

Environmental Health Impacts				
Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5
Status Quo	Operational improvements should improve environmental health	Operational improvements should improve environmental health	Unknown impact on environmental health	Operational improvements should improve environmental health
Preferred	Preferred	Preferred		

Interagency Impacts				
Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5
Status Quo	Effective operational and administrative leadership would improve interagency cooperation	Effective operational and administrative leadership would improve interagency cooperation	Interagency cooperation is diminished	Effective operational and administrative leadership would improve interagency cooperation
Status Quo	Requires new joint powers authority	Current joint powers agreement dissolved	Current joint powers agreement dissolved	Status Quo
Preferred	Preferred			

Impact Summary				
Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5
Preferred in nine impacts above	Preferred in six impacts above	Preferred in six impacts above	Preferred in two impacts above	Preferred in one impacts above
This is the recommended alternative.				

Based on the Impacts identified above, Alternative 1 is the recommended alternative. It is the preferred alternative in nine of the nine impact sections.